

Sudden Interruption of a Bridal Ceremony.
The Toronto (Canada) *Leader* says in a re-

We have, for some few days, been aware of romantic though rather unpleasant circumstances which lately occurred at Port Hope, in which a lady and gentleman, who are to become one at the altar, were acted when the knot was partially tied, and separated from each other by the lady's other, who is a widow.

The lady had it appears, been engaged for two or three months with the full concurrence of the lady's guardian and most of the leading members of the family, when her half-brother, from motives unexplained, set his face against the match, informing the

do that unless she withdrew her sanction would assume unfriendly relations toward her. This had the desired effect. The lady, however, was not the particular of a case and generously promised not to take any action in the premises that would endanger the happiness or pecuniary interests of her intended mother-in-law.

Believing, consequently, that a clandestine marriage would exonerate her from all complicity, he procured the aid of a friend, got a license privately, and unknown to all but a necessary witness, &c., on Saturday night week led the young bride to the altar, the ceremony being performed by the vicar, clergyman of the Church of England officiating in the absence of the Roman Catholic

The ceremony had commenced. Solemn words had been spoken, and the pledged oath all but exchanged, when the door of the apartment was thrown open, and to the utter consternation of the contracting parties and others, the widow lady already named, with another person who had been the bride, not, rather than the bride, of the group. In an instant all was confusion. The minister was obliged to close his book and discontinue his service, and the lady was constrained to accompany her mother and leave the bride-room in no very enviable position. Before making her exit, however, she assured all present that she should the marry the man o

Quaker Parent Out-wits his Son in a Bargain.
The Quakers are, in the main, as every one knows, a thrifty, kind-hearted, and undoubtedly honest people; but in some of them, even as among the "world's honest people," love of filthy lucre will predominate. In one of their farming communities lived friend Benjamin and his son. It was their custom to buy up cattle to fatten for sale. One day, when the father had selected a choice portion of stock from a native drove and was about

"Buy, when Benjamin, sr., came along.
"Father, I am about to buy these cattle,
what does he think of them?"
"What does he ask? So much? I guess
he'll get them for less; offer him \$800, and
wait till morning if he don't take it."
Filial piety presented—made an offer in
a suit, went home with the old gentleman,
lept—and next morning, after caring for the
stock, mounted his horse to try again to buy
the cattle. But on the way he met Benjamin,
sr., returning homeward with the whole herd
in question. Benjamin, sr., was wealthy as
well as smart—he had taken an early start,
and bought the lot.

"No, sonny, of course not; I've bought the whole—want 'em all."

"What! Isn't that a hard trick to play thy own son? and I trusted to thee!"

"Ah, Benny," said paterfamilias, reprovingly, "thou must be sharp and wide-awake; trust nobody, Benjamin; watch everybody; watch thy father, Benjamin; watch thy father!"

Quite likely for young Benjamin the admonition was needless thenceforward.

The Effect of Chloroform upon the Color of Flowers

A French amateur, in the *Horticultural Review* states: "About a year ago, I made a bargain for a rose bush of magnificent growth, and full of buds. I waited for them to bloom, and I expected roses worthy of such a noble plant, and of the praise bestowed upon it, by the vendor. At length with some astonishment, I discovered that the flowers were of a faded color, and I discovered that I had only a middling *multiflora*, stale-colored enough. I, therefore, resolved to sacrifice it to some experiments which I had in view. My attention had been captivated with the effects of charcoal, as stated in some English publications. I then covered the earth (in

had a pot in water my roses began to show an incipient greenish yellow color. After a week's exposure to the charcoal, I was authorized to see the roses which bloomed, of as fine a lively rose color as I could wish. I determined to repeat the experiment; and, therefore, when the rose-bush had done flowering, I took off the charcoal and put fresh earth on the pot. You may conceive that I waited for the next spring impatiently to see the result of this experiment. When it bloomed the roses were as at first, pale and discolored; and, by applying the charcoal again, the soon recovered their rose-red color. I tried the powdered charcoal likewise in large quantities upon my netunias, and found that both the

white and the violet flowers were equally sensible to its action. It always gave great vigor to the red or violet colors of the flowers, and the white petals became veined with red or violet tints. The violets (colors) became covered with irregular spots of a bluish or almost black tint. Many persons who admired them thought that they were new varieties from seed. Yellow flowers are as I have proved, insensible to the influence of the charcoal."—*Cottage Gardener*.

Suit for the Recovery of a Baby.

There is no telling now-a-days, says the *St. Louis Republican*, what small considerations

people will go to law about. The other day a woman actually brought suit for the recovery of her child, which was held in custody by the hospital, and restrained of its liberty by one certain nurse. It would seem that Jane Farrar some time ago put an infant, Farrar, which bore the distant relationship to her of being her child, out to nurse with one Mrs. Timothy Sullivan, who being well supplied with the milk of human kindness, took the young one to her bosom and nourished it with almost maternal care. Jane went to Mrs. Sullivan's residence and fondly inquired for "her baby," which she was told had taken to the hospital. Mrs. Sullivan, influenced by the affliction which she had contracted, and a delu-

twenty-eight dollars which the mother had contracted for the child refused to deliver over the property until Mrs. Farrar had gone into liquidation and settled up. In this dilemma, the dilemma of wanting the infant without the money to pay for it, the distressed parent sent out a writ of replevin before Justice Allen, armed with which Constable Leveaux went upon the child and delivered it into the hands of the rightful owner.

of a large gang of plantation negroes, who were hanging around the door of some lawyer's office. The police questioned them and, after hearing their story, took them to the lock-up. These negroes, thirty-four in number, say they were frightened by the plantation boys coming from the city, belonging to the estate of the late James B. Shephard. The overseer of the plantation, they say, treated them very cruelly, and, as they could not find out who was their master, so as to complain to him, they resolved to come to New Orleans and consult a lawyer as to what they could seek redress from. They left the plantation Sunday morning, and walked five

ABOLITION OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.—A bill, which has passed the New York Assembly, abolishes the punishment of death, substituting confinement in the State Prison for life. The person convicted of murder is to be considered dead, to all intents and purposes, as respects "matrimonial relations, and all civil and property rights. The crime

The act takes effect immediately.